#921

A Concert Tribute to Dr Stuart Davis
We remember Stuart Davis and celebrate his great gift to us: the Davis Concert Organ

Visiting Artist
David Palmer P173
with organists
Duo Majoya **Marnie Giesbrecht**
Joachim Segger
Brian Jones, percussion

WINSPEAR CENTRE
Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Sunday, November 20, 2005 at 8:00 pm
Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Program

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF
MUSIC

Program

From *Sonata in D Major, K381* — Wolfgang A Mozart
Andante (arr for organ by Duo Majoya) — (1756-1791)

Duo Majoya

Welcome: Dr Leonard Ratzlaff, Chair, Department of Music

Cortége et Litanie, Op. 19, No. 2 (1921) — Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

David Palmer

Shadow Variations (2005) — Brent Lee (b. 1964)

David Palmer

Constellations (A Concerto for Organ and Percussion) (1980) — Dan Locklair (b. 1949)
Caput serpentis (The Serpent Head)
Cygnus (The Swan)
Pegasus (The Winged Horse)
Cauda serpentis (The Serpent Tail)

Brian Jones, percussion
Marnie Giesbrecht

Intermission

Sarum Variations on an Advent Chant (1993) — Deirdre Piper (b. 1943)

David Palmer

Symphony No. 6 in G Minor, Op. 42 — Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)
I Allegro

David Palmer

Variations on an Original Theme (1971/73) — Barrie Cabena (b. 1933)

Duo Majoya

Symphony No. 5 in F, Op. 42, No. 1 — Charles Marie Widor
V Toccata

Dr Stuart Davis

Dr Stuart Davis, named Edmonton's 2003 philanthropist of the year, is an alumnus of the University of Alberta having obtained his BSc and MSc in chemistry before heading off to McGill to complete his PhD. He soon returned to the University of Alberta's Chemistry Department where he spent 40 years teaching future scientists and pursuing his research on the physical properties of clay.

In recent years Stuart Davis could often be spotted pedaling his bicycle across campus or downtown to the Winspear. One day in the spring of 2000, he dropped into the Winspear Centre for Music to offer to donate the necessary funds for the building of the Davis Concert Organ. In my RCCO president's message for "The American Organist" journal that fall, I called it "Miracle on 97th St." The organ selection and purchase committee had been meeting since 1993 to plan for an organ in the new Winspear Centre for Music, but three years after the hall was inaugurated, we were still at a stand still for lack of funds. Dr. Davis had no idea when he offered to donate funds for the organ that all the plans were ready to go. The Letourneau Organ firm began building the organ immediately. On September 11, 2001, the facade of the organ was unveiled and one year later we began celebrating the Davis Concert Organ with its music!

We are so glad that we could thrill to the wonders of the Davis Concert Organ together with Dr. Davis for the last three years. We miss him greatly! The organ is dedicated to the memory of Stuart Davis' wife Winona Davis. We will remember and celebrate Winona and Stuart Davis tonight, in the next two concerts of our series and every time we have the privilege and opportunity to play the magnificent Davis Concert Organ!

Upcoming Concerts in Honour of the late Dr Stuart Davis

Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Sunday 15 January, 3:00 pm
A Birthday Party for Mozart
The Davis Concert Organ
The University of Alberta
Madrigal Singers
University Symphony Orchestra
Patricia Tao, piano
in a Mozart Piano Concerto
arranged for Chamber Ensemble,
and excerpts from Mozart's
The Marriage of Figaro

Sunday 12 February, 8:00 pm
Music at Convocation Hall I
Francis Winspear Centre for Music
Marnie Giesbrecht, Joachim Segger
Solo and Duo Majoya
From Darkness to Light
Piano Sonata in B Minor: Franz Liszt
Fantasia on the chorale "Ad nos, ad salutarem undam", for organ: Franz Liszt
O Sacred Head: Charles Stolte
In the Light for Organ and Piano: Carson Cooman

Admission: $15/stud/sen, $20/adult. For more information, please call 492-0601

Program Notes
by Marnie Giesbrecht

Andante from *Sonata in D Major* by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Toccata from the *Fifth Symphony* by Charles Marie Widor

These two works were chosen to "book end" the program because of their connection to Dr. Davis and the performances surrounding the inauguration of the Davis Concert Organ in 2002. Duo Majoya performed the Sonata in D Major at the Inaugural Gala on September 14, 2002. Marnie Giesbrecht performed the Widor Toccata at a special recital for the "organ donors" a few days before the inaugural gala.

The RCCO's Sundays at 3 Organ Recital Series presented Christopher Herrick in the first organ recital to be performed on the Davis Organ on September 15th, 2002. It is fitting that the RCCO is involved in this concert tribute by sponsoring David Palmer as solo recitalist for this evening's performance.

Cortége et Litanie, Op. 19, No. 2 (1921) by Marcel Dupré

Written originally as music for a chamber ensemble of 11 instruments to accompany a stage play, the Cortége et Litanie became popular in several arrangements, for piano solo, for organ and orchestra, and in its most often-heard form, for organ solo. Dupré was one of the greatest organ virtuosos of the 20th c, occupying the post of organist of St. Sulpice in Paris for much of his career. (A Cortége is a ceremonial or funeral procession and litany is a form of prayer.)

Shadow Variations by Brent Lee

Shadow Variations is a work for solo organ of approximately ten minutes duration. The title has a double meaning. Firstly, the music that is played on one manual of the organ is "shadowed" on the second manual, creating a fluctuating tremolo of timbre. By using sets of nearly identical registrations for the two manuals, the transient sounds created at the beginning and end of each pitch are emphasized. Near the end of the work, the organist is required to play across manuals with one hand to achieve this effect. Secondly, much of the harmonic and melodic material is derived from transcriptions of early radio shows with organ accompaniment, especially The Shadow. (Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?) The work was commissioned by organist David Palmer with the assistance of the Ontario Arts Council.

Constellations (A Concerto for Organ and Percussion) by Dan Locklair

Locklair writes: "The piece explores two of the most potent musical sound sources: percussion and the pipe organ." Constellations' four movements are named after stellar constellations. Although in four distinct movements, the first three serve as an exposition to the fourth movement, which is similar in length to

the opening three and develops and recaps the musical atmospheres and orbits of colour, building to a final explosion of sound. The percussion instruments used are two timpani, brake drum, suspended cymbal, three tom-toms, vibraphone (played with mallets and a string-bass bow), triangle, glockenspiel, xylophone, orchestral chimes and snare drum.

Sarum: Variations on an Advent Chant (1993) by Deirdre Piper

Based on the 7th century Sarum plainsong, "Conditor alme siderum", Piper presents four variations, each derived from verses of the Latin text as translated by Rev. J. M Neale in 1851. In Verse 1, a continuous gently sparkling ostinato hovers above two statements of the chant melody. Verse 2 is fugal in an atonal setting, resolving to a quiet ending with the chant melody on an 8' flute stop. In Verse 3, a dialogue between soprano and bass voices precedes the chant melody, again heard on another 8' flute. Verse 4 presents fragments of the chant theme alternating with a chordal passage on the Swell reeds (evoking change ringing of church bells) and a passage of birdsong-like character.

1. Creator of the starry height,
thy people's everlasting light,
Jesus, Redeemer of us all,
hear thou thy servants when they call.

2. Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry
of all creation doomed to die,
didst save our lost and guilty race
by healing gifts of heavenly grace.

3. Thou cam'st, the bridegroom of the bride,
as drew the world to eventide;
proceeding from a virgin-shrine,
the spotless victim all divine.

4. At thy great name, exalted now,
all knees in lowly homage bow;
all things in heaven and earth adore,
and own thee King for evermore.

Symphonie No. 6, Op. 42 by Charles-Marie Widor
I. Allegro

Followed by his famous pupil, Dupré, Widor held the position of organist of St. Sulpice in Paris for 64 years. The great French school of organ playing owes its completeness and virtuosity to the highly developed technique he brought to the instrument and to his generations of students. The celebrated organ at St. Sulpice, built by Cavaillé-Coll in 1862, inspired his ten symphonies (or suites) for the organ. One of the most powerful of them, the first movement of Symphonie VI opens with a grand march, followed by a recitative-like theme in triplet 8th notes. Widor then combines both, developing a fantasy through striking key

changes into an urgent final statement of the march theme on full organ. Variations on an Original Theme (1971/1973) Barrie Cabena Canadian composer and organist Barrie Cabena is Professor Emeritus of Wilfrid Laurier University in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario and artistic adviser to the Guelph Spring Festival. Born in Melbourne, Australia with further studies in England at the Royal College of Music, he made Canada his home and the inspiration for his creative life. This year Barrie Cabena was honoured by winning two prizes sponsored by the American Guild of Organists: the AGO/ECS Publishing Award in Choral Composition and the Holtkamp-AGO Award in Organ Composition. This is the first time in the history of the competitions that a single composer has won both awards in the same year.

Variations on an Original Theme is a humourous and colourful tribute to one of Cabena's mentors, Eric Harrison. After an exuberant final variation, the piece ends quietly with a coda that recalls the opening theme.

Performers

David Palmer has performed from coast to coast in Canada, and has given recitals in such American centres as San Francisco, Washington and New York, as well as several cities in the Midwest. In Europe, he has played in England and France, including recitals in the cathedrals of Chartres and Notre Dame in Paris. CBC Radio has broadcast nationally many of his performances, both solos and appearances with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra. He has been a judge for several organ playing competitions, among them the nationals of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, and the semi-final round of the Second Calgary International Organ Festival.

Mr Palmer has developed a specialty in the keyboard music of Olivier Messiaen. In the spring of 1981, he studied with the composer's wife, Yvonne Loriod, concentrating on excerpts from Messiaen's Vingt regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus and Catalogue d'Oiseaux. Since then, he has given many workshops and lectures, and has written several articles on aspects of Messiaen's music. In October 1990, he gave the first Canadian performance of Livre du Saint Sacrement at St. James' Cathedral in Toronto, broadcast on CBC Stereo on "Arts National", and was invited to perform excerpts of the work at the Fifth International Congress of Organists in Montreal in July 1993. His CD of Méditations sur le mystère de la Sainte Trinité, recorded in the Cathedral-Basilica Mary Queen of the World in Montreal, was released in 1999.

A native of Victoria, British Columbia, David Palmer holds degrees from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he was a student of Robert Glasgow. Past-President of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, he is a Professor in the School of Music at the University of Windsor, and Organist and Choir Director of All Saints' Church, Windsor. Mr Palmer's performance is sponsored by the RCCO Traveling Clinicians' Program; jointly presented by the national and local RCCO and the University of Alberta.

Marnie Giesbrecht and **Joachim Segger** are ***Duo Majoya***. Their duo repertoire includes piano duets, organ duets, duets for organ and piano, and duets for organ and harpsichord. Concert programs are eclectic and innovative, spanning original and commissioned works to transcriptions and jazz; they usually combine solo and duo works and frequently include improvisation. Regular performers in the Winspear Centre for Music in Edmonton and Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary, recent performances also include Los Angeles, California (American Guild of Organists Convention, 2004), Billings, Montana (AGO convention, 2005), London, Ontario (Royal Canadian College of Organists nation convention, 2005); Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Vienna and numerous venues in Canada, US and Europe. Giesbrecht and Segger direct the music at First Presbyterian Church in Edmonton, AB, Canada. For more information on their solo and duo CDs or Duo Majoya, visit: www.majoya.com.

Marnie Giesbrecht has performed in major cities and universities throughout Canada, the United States, South Africa and Europe. A versatile keyboard artist, she performs regularly as an organ soloist in recitals and with orchestra, as a choral accompanist and chamber musician. Educated at the University of Alberta, the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y.and the Mozarteum, Salzburg, Austria, Dr. Giesbrecht is Professor of Music at the University of Alberta where she teaches Organ Performance, Organ Literature and related subjects. She was national president of the Royal Canadian College of Organists from 2000 to 2002 and was invited to be on the faculty of the 2005 McGill International Organ Academy.

Joachim Segger is a versatile musician who regularly performs piano solo and various duo and chamber recitals as well as concertos. Educated at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, the University of Alberta, Canada and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, he has performed in various venues throughout North America, Europe and South Africa including Carnegie Recital Hall, NY. Dr. Segger is Professor of Music at The King's University College, Edmonton, Alberta and Adjunct Professor of Piano at the University of Alberta. A church organist since the age of nine, Joachim has given workshops on improvisation at national conventions in the US and Canada and is a traveling clinician for the Royal Canadian College of Organists in 2005.

Brian Jones, Principal Percussionist of the ESO, has performed with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra since 1968. A graduate of the University of Alberta, Brian studies with Forrest Clark and Earl Hatch in Los Angeles. He has performed with numerous orchestras and ensembles, including the Capetown Symphony Orchestra in South Africa, and won first prize at the Percussion Arts Society Timpany Competition in Southern California. Brian Jones is on faculty at the University of Alberta and the Cosmopolitan Music Society.

Thanks to Stephanie Enders and Darka Tarnawksy of Bottom Line Productions for their help with promoting this evening's concert.

Music of Christmas Monday 12 December at 8:00 pm
Greenwood Singers, Greenwood Chamber Orchestra
and the University of Alberta
Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers
Robert de Frece, Conductor
Francis Winspear Centre for Music
Tickets: Winspear Centre for Music Box Office 428-1414

Upcoming Events

November
25 Friday, 8:00 pm
Music at Convocation Hall I
Jolaine Kerley, soprano
Karen Zaidan, soprano
John Brough, countertenor
Timothy Shantz, tenor
John Huck, tenor
Leonard Ratzlaff, baritone
Adam Wead, theorbo
Josh Lee, viola da gamba
Love and Lament in Italy
Songs by Claudio Monteverdi,
Luzzasco Luzzaschi, Giulio Caccini
and Girolamo Frescobaldi
Admission: $15/student/senior, $20/adult

28 Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
U of A Faculty of Education
Handbell Ringers
Robert de Frece, Director
with **Organists Marnie Giesbrecht**
and **Joachim Segger**
Francis Winspear Centre for Music
For ticket information, call 428-1414

December
2 Friday , 8:00 pm
The University of Alberta Concert Choir
Debra Cairns, Director
Works by Gabrieli, Schuetz, Mendelssohn
Dvořák, Wolf, Archer, and Grandage
Admission: $10/stud/sen, $15/adult

3 Saturday, 8:00 pm
***Happnin'* U of A Jazz Choir**
John McMillan, Director
Admission: $10/stud/sen, $15/adult

4 Sunday, 3:00 pm
The University of Alberta Concert Band
Wendy Grasdahl, Director
Admission: $10/stud/sen, $15/adult

4 Sunday, 3:00 pm and 7:30 pm
The University of Alberta
Madrigal Singers
Leonard Ratzlaff, Conductor
Jolaine Kerley, soprano
Guests of the Alberta
Baroque Ensemble
Magnificat: Perti
Alles, was ihr tut: Buxtehude
Gloria: Handel
Robertson Wesley United Church
For ticket information, call 467-6531

Unless otherwise indicated - Convocation Hall, Arts Building
Please note: All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-0601 to confirm concerts (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any changes to our schedule).